



## Gulf Hypoxia

The Gulf of Mexico has been of special concern to Louisiana recently because of the seasonal occurrence of low oxygen or hypoxia in near shore Gulf waters. The Gulf hypoxia issue has been of such importance that Louisiana pursued national solutions that led to the creation of The Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force in 1997. The Task Force is charged with conducting evaluations of the characteristics and causes of Gulf Hypoxia and developing an action plan to address it. One of the major causes of Gulf hypoxia has been identified as the constrained discharge and nutrient loads of the Mississippi River to the Gulf. The Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan completed in 2001 and revised in 2008 is supporting the Mississippi River states including Louisiana to address the sources of nutrient loads to the Mississippi River and Gulf. For more information and to obtain copies of the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan 2008 go to [http://water.epa.gov/type/watersheds/named/msbasin/msbasin\\_index.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/type/watersheds/named/msbasin/msbasin_index.cfm)